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OLC 71-0461

14 June 1971

Mr. Philip Trimble, Consultant
Subcommittee on Arms Control,
International Law and Organization
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Trimble:

In accordance with our conversation on 10 June, I enclose herewith a statement concerning recent Soviet ICBM developments setting forth the agreed views of the Central Intelligence Agency and the Defense Intelligence Agency.

If the Subcommittee thinks it appropriate, this statement may be included in, and serve to update, the record of Mr. Helms' testimony on this subject before the Subcommittee on 29 March 1971.

Sincerely,

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[Redacted]
John M. Maury
Legislative Counsel

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There is no disagreement between the CIA and the DIA concerning new Soviet ICBM developments. Both agencies agree fully that there is not one, but two, different ICBM programs involved in the activity presently underway in the Soviet Union.

Evidence now available does not permit a conclusion on the kind of missiles that will be deployed in the new silos. There are at least these possibilities and combinations: The SS-9 and the SS-11 could be deployed; a modified version of these systems could be installed; or new missile systems could be deployed. Regardless of the prospective use of either type silo, the evidence indicates the new silos will be harder than existing Soviet ICBM silos.

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Recently there have been a number of press reports concerning new Soviet ICBM developments, and reported differences within our government as to the purpose of these developments. It is time to set the record straight.

First, there is no disagreement between the CIA and the DIA. Both agencies agree fully that there is not one, but two, different ICBM programs involved in the activity presently underway in the Soviet Union.

Evidence now available does not permit a conclusion on the kind of missiles that will be deployed in the new silos. There are at least these possibilities and combinations: The SS-9 and the SS-11 could be deployed; a modified version of these systems could be installed; or new missile systems could be deployed. Regardless of the prospective use of either type silo, the evidence indicates the new silos will be harder than existing Soviet ICBM silos.